

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently Amended) A paving block according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 20, wherein the upper tapered portion of ~~[[a]]~~ each lateral surface ~~which is tapered~~ extends over 10% to 80% of the entire height of the lateral surface.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) A paving block as claimed in ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 20, in which all lateral surfaces of the paving block have at least one channel therein.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) A paving block as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 20 in which the depth of the or each channel is not greater than about 5mm.

7. (Currently Amended) A paving block as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 20 in which the material from which the block is made is impermeable.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) A paving surface as claimed ~~in any of claims 8 to 15~~
claim 21, in which the paving blocks are made from an impermeable material.

17. (Currently Amended) A paving block according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 20, wherein
the upper surface of the block has a bevelled edge portion around its periphery at its common
edge with said tapered portion of said lateral surface, said bevelled edge portion being
inclined with respect to said lateral surface at a greater angle than said tapered portion
thereof.

18. (Previously Presented) A paving block according to claim 17, wherein said
bevelled edge portion is inclined at an angle between 30° and 40° with respect to said upper
surface.

C₁ 19. (Previously Presented) A paving block according to claim 17, wherein a shoulder having a surface generally parallel to said upper surface separates said tapered surface portion from said bevelled edge portion.

20. (New) A paving block having interconnected sides for use in the construction of a paved surface for bearing wheeled traffic, said paving block comprising:

an upper planar surface and a lower surface spaced from and generally parallel to said upper planar surface,

C a lateral surface extending between said upper surface and said lower surface on each side of the block,

each lateral surface having a planar lower portion and an associated upper tapered planar portion,

✓ said planar lower portion lying in a plane generally perpendicular to a plane of said lower surface so that, with the blocks positioned adjacent each other, said lower portions of said lateral surfaces of adjacent blocks abut against each other,

said upper tapered portion of each lateral surface having a lower edge which intersects and terminates at an upper edge of its associated lower portion of said lateral surface, a plane of said upper tapered portion intersecting the plane of its associated lower portion at an angle greater than zero degrees and less than fifteen degrees so that an upper edge of each upper tapered portion is spaced from and generally parallel to the upper edge of the upper tapered portion of an adjacent paving block, and

at least one of said lateral surfaces having at least one channel extending from said bottom surface towards said upper surface, said channel having a width greater than its depth.

21. (New) A paving block having interconnected sides for use in the construction of a paved surface for bearing wheeled traffic, said paving block comprising

an upper planar surface and a lower surface spaced from and generally parallel to said upper planar surface,

a lateral surface extending between said upper surface and said lower surface on each side of the block,

C₂ each lateral surface having a planar lower portion and an associated upper tapered planar portion,

said planar lower portion lying in a plane generally perpendicular to a plane of said lower surface so that, with the blocks positioned adjacent each other, said lower portions of said lateral surfaces of adjacent blocks abut against each other,

said upper tapered portion of each lateral surface having a lower edge which intersects and terminates at an upper edge of its associated lower portion of said lateral surface, a plane of said upper tapered portion intersecting the plane of its associated lower portion at an angle greater than zero degrees and less than fifteen degrees so that an upper edge of each upper tapered portion is spaced from and generally parallel to the upper edge of the upper tapered portion of an adjacent paving block.
